



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

legend "which have come to me in the effort to disentangle the true from the false of early Oregon history." But the author's refutation of the legend would be far from convincing, if it had never previously been refuted; and it is entirely unnecessary in view of the fact that the late Professor E. G. Bourne demolished the "Oregon Saved" myth once and for all. But the well-known expose written by Professor Bourne some twenty or more years ago was apparently unknown to Dr. Bell, for no mention is made of it either in the text or in the bibliography.

The precedent-breaking illustrations with which this volume of the Columbia University Studies is embellished add nothing to the historical value of the work, and seem to indicate that the author was perplexed between the opposing desires of producing a book of historical importance to the student and of casual interest to the general reader. The style of the work is interesting, but is marred by occasional bits of careless writing such as "the Hudson's Bay Company, who sought to control and restrain the natives," and "the feature of national advantage was but incidental, which could not be called upon, as Astor did, when it was desired to secure popular favor."

C. S. T.

#### BRIEF NOTICES

*The Writing of History: An Introduction to Historical Method.* By Fred Morrow Fling, Ph.D. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1920. pp. 195).

This brief text-book on historical method may be studied with profit by any beginner in the study of historical investigation, and may well be carefully read by all teachers of history. It is intended only as an elementary introduction to the subject, and was written "for college students who are beginning their studies in historical research, for teachers of history who have had no critical historical training, and for students of history who are hoping to find in private study some compensation for opportunities not enjoyed in college" (Foreword). The book is briefer and less

abstract than the "Introduction to the Study of History" by Langlois and Seignobos, which may well come between this and the more advanced work of Bernheim.

The book includes chapters on Choice of a Subject, Criticism of the Sources for genuineness, localization, and independence, Establishment of the Facts, Synthesis, and Exposition. The examples with which the theories are illustrated are taken from the period of the French Revolution. Some parts of the text seem rather elementary, even for the classes of readers to whom they are addressed, and the examples cited, though illuminating, rather disproportionately difficult for most students. The work is most useful, however, and should help materially in aiding beginners in research.

In connection with this work by Dr. Fling, attention may be called to "Source Problems in United States History," by A. C. McLaughlin, William E. Dodd, and others. (New York: Harper & Brothers, c. 1918). This does not contain anything of historical theory, but the practical problems so fully presented, with the notes on sources, will be very helpful to young students, especially if preceded by Dr. Fling's presentation of historical method.

C. S. T.

*Recent History of the United States.* By Frederic L. Paxson. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1921. pp. XII, 630).

This is the latest of the attempts, which are becoming so frequent, to write the history of the United States since the Civil War. Like most of the others, it begins with the election of President Hayes, as the nation was emerging from the era of reconstruction, and it closes with the election of President Harding, in 1920, with the problems of reconstruction after an even greater war still unsolved.

"From Hayes to Harding," the book might have been entitled, as more in keeping with the apparent intention to give the work as wide popular appeal as possible. Unless with the purpose of providing interesting reading, it is difficult to understand why certain chapters should have been included. Chapter XII, for example, on "Wild West and